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CC98-67

From: auto94669@hushmail.com
To: Cheryl King
Date: 5/12/03 11:13AM
Subject: RE: Ultratecs Captel service for TRS

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MAY 13 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Since the FCC is considering allowing Ultratecs Captel service to be approved for TRS, one little-known fact about Ultratecs Captel service is the fact that Ultratec has patented ANY and ALL applications of voice recognition technology as they apply to relay. This prevents any other relay company or TTY manufacturer from providing any competition. If the FCC provides the waivers that Ultratec requests, what incentive do they have to improve service if no one can compete? And if the FCC permits similar voice-recognition services, only Ultratec will be able to provide such a service. Will the FCC provide for reimbursement from public funds to a monopoly? I think the Texas PUC has recently voted against Captel in TX for that very reason. There is no other relay service reimbursed today that has the broad patent protections that Ultratec has for Captel and voice recognition. It would seem to be a very anticompetitive action for the FCC to approve reimbursement that only one company can benefit from.

Ps email address for Cheryl King, cking@fcc.gov was found through a google search

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